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accurate to serve the purpose of an elementary treatise on jurisprudence. Nor does it succeed, on the other hand, in contributing to the solution of fundamental problems or even in presenting them in a new light. Coming from an author of such distinguished reputation as Mr. Taylor enjoys, the impression which the work leaves is one of disappointment. A timely essay might be written on the topic "of the vocation of eminent lawyers for the science of jurisprudence".

E. F.

General History of Western Nations from 5000 B. C. to 1900 A. D.

By EMIL REICH, Doctor Juris. Volumes I. and II. *Antiquity*. (London and New York: Macmillan and Company. 1908. Pp. xxvi, 485; x, 479.)

THE author's idea of his subject is the most interesting feature of the present work, and may be briefly stated as follows. General history is not a summary of special histories, as is ordinarily assumed, but a study of large facts. "At the basis of all that happened in the history of western nations there is a series of some twenty to thirty general facts, which singly, and still more by meeting, blending, or antagonizing one another, created a multitude of particular facts." The treatment of these general truths in the present volumes is not philosophy, which depreciates teleological reasoning; it is rather psychology in that it has to do with motive as a primary cause. In this respect the author claims his work to be superior to that of other historians, among whom "it is not considered good form to try to know more than one's sources, which is precious little." The chief contents of history, he continues, are institutions, events and persons. Because of the static character of institutions we are in a position to know them much better than the other two elements, and must therefore make them the basis of our study. Institutions repeat themselves, though persons and events do not. It is possible for us accordingly by the direct study of some modern institution, analogous to one of ancient times, to find a means of getting into closer touch with the real psychological essence of the earlier institution. The only way to gain this knowledge of present conditions is by long sojourns in the countries in which they exist. Most historians are of the "arm-chair" type; they are utterly impractical, their vision is narrow, and they are hampered by their philological method.

In his treatment of events and their relation to institutions he contests the theory represented by Eduard Meyer and Seignobos that history is a chain of accidents. It is in fact, he asserts, the science of correlations, which are affected by chance occurrences no more than comets and meteors affect the regularity of the solar system. A correlation is the psychological motive underlying two or more historical phenomena and bringing them into unity. The history of the

world is such a unit, the paramount current of which is "the Europeanisation of mankind. In the present year eleven hundred out of a total of over fifteen hundred million human beings are under the sway of Europeans or their direct descendants." The primary factor in this process is Hellenic civilization, to which must be added two others of less importance, Roman polity, and Christianity. Of Teutonism, so prominent in all our histories, he makes nothing, in the conviction that race does not count appreciably as a historical force. Even Hellenic culture was not the creation of a race as such but of a peculiar environment.

In looking for causes more general than the twenty or thirty facts referred to above, and more elementary than the three just mentioned, Dr. Reich discovers five, which he terms correlative forces. The first, and in the early stage of a nation's progress most prominent, is geopolitics. In explanation of this cause he states that it is not the configuration of the country alone which makes a people, but much more the configuration of neighboring countries. The growth of a state is largely the result of conflict. "France has ever since the last of the Merovingian kings been the most exposed large country of Europe. By sea and on land powerful enemies have been constantly threatening the French, thus producing that French alertness and quickness of intellect, that tendency to centralised, that is, ever-ready government which is vainly ascribed to some 'Gallic' or 'Celts-Latin' race quality." The second great force is the production and distribution of wealth—not all-powerful, however, as many historians have assumed. The third is the relation of man to woman. The conservative influence of women may be illustrated by the contrast between stagnant Sparta and progressive Athens. The fourth cause is personality, and the fifth is ideals.

In these two volumes, with which he begins his general history of Western nations, he applies to the development of antiquity the principles enumerated above. The work is not a history in the usual sense, but a succession of essays on some of the larger aspects of the period treated. The discursive style arises from the circumstance that the method is essentially comparative. In the treatment of details the author often falls into grave errors, which might have been avoided, had he taken an "arm-chair" historian into partnership in his labor. Long periods are represented by meagre summaries. Many subjects, like the reform movement begun by the Gracchi, are inadequately treated. The author gives little space to the imperial period of Roman history, and his ideas of individual emperors are largely antiquated. For living and earlier scholars who are ordinarily considered pre-eminent in the field he expresses profound contempt, while extolling himself as the creator of the only true historical method. Notwithstanding these disagreeable features the work proves the author to possess some constructive ability. His synthetic principles, though

extravagantly stated and not so new as he claims, are worthy of attention.

GEORGE WILLIS BOTSFORD.

The Imperial Gazetteer of India: the Indian Empire. Volume II. *Historical.* Published under the Authority of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1908. Pp. xxxv, 573. New edition.)

THE history of the development of this work goes back a little over a quarter of a century to the time when Sir W. W. Hunter published his *Indian Empire* with the intention of "distilling into one volume the essence of the *Imperial Gazetteer*". The second edition of the *Gazetteer* was followed by a new and revised edition of the *Indian Empire* (1892) which like the work upon which it was based had expanded about fifty per cent., but still remained the work of one man. It is characteristic of the advance of scholarship in the last fifteen years that the companion to the third edition of the *Gazetteer* should be broken into four volumes each requiring for its completion the co-operation of a number of specialists. The companion volumes bearing the subtitles, *Descriptive*, *Economic*, and *Administrative*, appeared in 1907 and constitute with the present volume what is in reality a new work, a fact which should however not make its users oblivious of their indebtedness to the first author of the *Indian Empire*.

To indicate briefly the contents of the work: the first chapter (pp. 1-88) deals with epigraphy and is the work of Dr. J. F. Fleet. In the three following chapters Mr. Vincent A. Smith treats of the pre-historic antiquities (pp. 89-100), the history of sculpture and painting (pp. 101-134), and (pp. 135-155) the coinage of India. Architecture (pp. 156-201) is the subject of Dr. James Burgess's contribution. In the sixth chapter (pp. 206-269) Professor A. A. Macdonell gives an outline of Sanskrit literature. The political history of India before the Muhammadan Conquest is divided between Mr. Vincent A. Smith who treats of the history of northern India from 600 B. C. to A. D. 650 (pp. 270-302), Mr. James Kennedy who continues the narrative from 650-1200 (pp. 303-320), and Mr. Robert Sewell whose subject (pp. 321-349) is the history of Southern India. The tenth chapter, Muhammadan India (pp. 350-413), is the work of Mr. William Irvine, and is followed by an exceedingly interesting sketch (pp. 414-438) of the Vernacular Literature by Dr. G. A. Grierson. The editor, Mr. J. S. Cotton, contributes a short account (pp. 439-445) of the Marāthās; and the last two chapters of the book, Early European Settlements (pp. 446-469), and History of British Rule (pp. 470-530), while revised by Mr. P. E. Roberts, have been allowed to retain the personal impress of Sir W. W. Hunter.

As this sketch indicates, the work is a storehouse of valuable information in a most highly condensed form. Detailed criticism is pre-